(b) if so, what are the details of the aid/assistance that Pakistan is likely to get from USSR;

(c) whether Government have taken up this issue with the Russian Government to ensure that the Indian interest is not any way jeopardised by any such proposal; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to available information, the Soviet Union has agreed to assist in the Multan Thermal Power Project in Pakistan. The details of this are not available

(c) and (d) Government have no reason to think that bilateral trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and Pakistan will jeopardise India's interests.

I.T.D.C. Establishments in Gujarat

1670. SHRI SAGAR RAYKA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that I.T.D.C. has no establishment or any tourism development facility in Gujarat; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) which are the other States/Union Territories where the I.T.D.C. has no hotel or any establishment and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Gujarat Government has requested the Central Government for establishing I.T.D.C. units in Gujarat; if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) and (b) ITDC is presently operating on behalf of Central Department of Tourism a sound and light show at Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad. A statement showing present activities/services of ITDC in States/Union Territories is given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

Statement

Present activities/services of ITDC in States/Union Territories in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1670 to be answered on 5-5-1987

	States	Union Territories	Total
1. Number of States/Union Territories where ITDC has its own activities	12	1	13
2. Number of other States/Union Territories where ITDC is constructing Joint Venture Projects	2	1	3
3. Number of other States/Union Territories where ITDC is operating properties on behalf of Central Department of Tourism	1	..	1
4. Number of other States/Union Territories where ITDC is managing Properties on behalf of State Governments	2	..	2

	States	Union Territories	Total
5. Number of other States/Union Territories where ITDC has entered into agreements providing consultancy/managerial services to private hotels	1	1	2
6. Number of States/Union Territories where ITDC has no activities at present	*6	@4	10
	24	7	31

*States

1 Haryana

2 Nagaland

3 Punjab

4 Sikkim

5 Tripura

6 Mizoram

@Union Territories

1 Andaman and Nicobar

2 Chandigarh

3 Dadra and Nagar Haveli

4 Lakshdweep

Release of Prof. Mithleshwar Singh captured by the Palestinian terrorists

1671. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what efforts have been made by Government of India to secure the release of Prof. Mithleshwar Singh, captured by Palestinian terrorists and threatened with execution alongwith other American hostages; and

(b) what is the outcome of these efforts and when is Prof. Singh likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Professor Mithleshwar Singh and three American Professors have been kidnapped by a group calling itself the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine. The affiliation or composition of the group is not known.

Government have been in continuous contact with all Governments and organisations which may have information about or influence with the kidnappers to secure the release of Dr. Mithleshwar Singh.

Direct appeals to the kidnappers have also been issued through newspaper advertisements.

(b) On February 9, 1987, the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine announced that it was postponing its decision to execute the hostages until further notice because of the numerous appeals received by it and "in respect for the request of